

Serial No. 10/645,089

PATENT

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (Currently Amended) A guide wire to assist percutaneous endovascular  
 2 deployment,  
 3 the guide wire having zones of varying stiffness comprising:  
 4 an elongate central zone of high stiffness and substantially constant  
 5 diameter along its length;  
 6 a proximal zone of transition from high stiffness to semi-stiffness and having  
 7 a length of from 3 cm to 20 cm; and  
 8 a distal zone of transition from high stiffness to being relatively flexible and  
 9 wherein the distal zone comprises a distal pre-formed curve with a radius of  
 10 curvature of from 5 cm to 15 cm and being comprised of three zones:  
 11 a semi stiff zone adjacent the central zone;  
 12 a transition zone being of flexibility of from semi-stiff extending to flexible;  
 13 and  
 14 a tip zone being of high flexibility and wherein the tip zone has a tip curve  
 15 with a radius of curvature of from 5 to 20 mm.

1 2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Currently Amended) A guide wire as in claim 1 wherein the central zone  
 2 comprises a stainless steel mandrel ~~of substantially constant diameter along its~~  
 3 ~~length.~~

1 4. (Currently Amended) A guide wire as in claim 1 wherein the proximal zone  
 2 comprises a tapered mandrel with a proximal wire coil of substantially constant coil  
 3 diameter on and extending along the tapered mandrel.

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- 1 5. (Cancelled)
- 1 6. (Cancelled)
- 1 7. (Original) A guide wire as in Claim 4 wherein the proximal wire coil is laser  
2 welded to the tapered mandrel.
- 1 8. (Original) A guide wire as in Claim 4 wherein the proximal wire coil  
2 terminates in a rounded tip.
- 1 9. (Currently Amended) A guide wire as in Claim 1 wherein the distal zone  
2 comprises in order from the central zone, a tapered mandrel portion and a portion  
3 of constant reduced diameter with a distal wire coil of substantially constant coil  
4 diameter on and extending along the tapered mandrel portion and the portion of  
5 constant reduced diameter.
- 1 10. (Cancelled)
- 1 11. (Original) A guide wire as in Claim 9 wherein the distal wire coil is laser  
2 welded to the tapered mandrel portion.
- 1 12. (Original) A guide wire as in Claim 9 wherein the distal wire coil terminates  
2 in a rounded tip.
- 1 13. (Cancelled)

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1 14. (Currently Amended) A guide wire as in Claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein ~~the distal end of~~  
2 ~~the guide wire has a curve with a radius of curvature of from 50 to 150 mm and~~  
3 ~~wherein the distal curve comprises~~ includes a portion of the central zone, the semi  
4 stiff zone adjacent the central zone and a portion of the transition zone.

1 15. to 27 (Cancelled)

1 28. (Currently Amended) A guide wire as in Claim ~~1~~ 24 wherein at least some  
2 portions of the guide wire are radio-opaque.

1 29 to 34. (Cancelled)

1 35. (New) A guide wire as in Claim 1 wherein the proximal zone comprises a  
2 proximal wire coil of substantially constant coil diameter and the distal zone  
3 comprises a distal wire coil of substantially constant coil diameter and the central  
4 zone, the proximal wire coil and the distal wire coil are coated with  
5 polytetrafluoroethylene.